

News from SALEM COUNTY

Office of Public Information

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SALEM COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION PRESENTS WORKSHOP FOR ARTISTS

(SALEM, NJ)---The Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission is presenting a new workshop focusing on opportunities available for artists through museums and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. This free program will take place on Thursday, May 7, 3:30 pm at Ironstone Sculpture Garden in Alloway.

"The Commission is committed to providing professional and technical services to the County's arts and history communities," said Deputy Freeholder Director Beth Timberman. "This new workshop offers artists a great opportunity not only to learn about the Arts Council's many programs, but also how to develop and present a proposal for exhibition at museums."

The workshop features two distinguished speakers. Don Ehman is the Program Associate for Artists Services and Access Coordinator for the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and Margaret O'Reilly is Curator of Fine Art at the New Jersey State Museum. Both are well-known throughout the state and region. Ehman will highlight the Council's programs and services for artists including Fellowship grants, Artist and Community residencies, Arts Inclusion, Arts Annual Exhibits, Artist Development Workshops and the South Jersey Space Bank Website. O'Reilly will discuss practical strategies that artists should employ to increase their chances for inclusion in museum exhibitions. These will include developing an exhibition history, reaching out to the right museums, preparing support materials and 'selling' the work and ideas.

"Over the past year the Commission has fostered networking and communication among the County's artists and arts organizations. The upcoming studio and gallery open house, *Arts in Bloom*, the last weekend in May is a result of this work," said Deputy Director Timberman. "The workshop is another way we can help strengthen and promote artists working here."

Ironstone Sculpture Garden is an especially attractive site for this program. Located at 218 Commissioners Pike, the 4½ acre garden features works by Daniel Gantenbein, Mitsuo Kikuchi, Casey Schwartz and David Tothero. The program will be held right in the garden, unless the weather is inclement, in which case will take place in the studio. The garden will also be featured on the *Arts in Bloom* studio tour, May 30 and 31st.

The workshop is free to artists in Salem, Gloucester and Cumberland Counties, but registration is requested. To register, contact James F. Turk, Arts Director, Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission (856-935-7510 x 8384; james.turk@salemcountynj.gov). The Commission receives support from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a division of the New Jersey Department of State and Partner Agency with the National Endowment for the Arts.